

Mrs. MacVicar's Suggestions for Summer Reading Grades K-2

Picture Books

Alexander, Kwame. [The Undefeated.](#)

Kadir Nelson's rich illustrations amplify Kwame Alexander's poetic tribute to the resiliency, strength, and perseverance of the historical and present-day Black experience. **2020 Caldecott Winner**

Barnett, Mac. [Just Because.](#)

Why is the ocean blue? What is the rain? What happened to the dinosaurs? It might be time for bed, but one child is too full of questions about the world to go to sleep just yet. **Read Also:** any Mac Barnett book!

Beaty, Andrea. [Sofia Valdez, Future Prez.](#)

Every morning, Abuelo walks Sofia to school . . . until one day, when Abuelo hurts his ankle at a local landfill and he can no longer do so. Sofia (aka Sofi) gets an idea—the town can turn the slimy mess into a park! **Read also:** [Rosie Revere, Engineer](#), [Iggly Peck, Architect](#), and [Ada Twist, Scientist](#)

Blackall, Sophie. [Hello Lighthouse.](#)

Explores the life of one lighthouse as it beams its message out to sea through shifting seasons, changeable weather, and the tenure of its final keeper. **2019 Caldecott Winner**

Cooper, Elisha. [River.](#)

A fictional account of a woman's solo canoe trip down the Hudson over several days, with facts about the river, the landscape and the logistics of such a journey woven into the story.

Heder, Thyra. [How Do You Dance.](#)

There are so many ways to dance! But, what's the *best* way to dance? Exactly how you want to!

Houts, Michelle. [Sea Glass Summer.](#)

When his grandmother shows him a piece of sea glass, Thomas is transfixed. For the rest of the summer, he searches for more sea glass and hopes to have dreams that will reveal more of the sea's secrets.

Jory, John. [The Cool Bean.](#)

Everyone knows the cool beans. They're sooooo cool. And then there's the uncool *has-bean* . . . **Read also:** [The Good Egg](#) and [The Bad Seed](#)

Lang, Suzanne. [Grumpy Monkey.](#)

Jim the chimpanzee is in a terrible mood for no good reason. Could it be that he just needs a day to feel grumpy?

Martinez-Neal, Juana. [Alma and How She Got Her Name.](#)

What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from -- and who she may one day be. **2019 Caldecott Honor Book**

Muhammad, Ibtihaj. [The Proudest Blue: The story of Hijab and Family.](#)

With her new backpack and light-up shoes, Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's the start of a brand new year and, best of all, it's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab.

Morris, Richard T. [Bear Came Along.](#)

After tumbling into a river, Bear is swept into an epic journey, collecting woodland companions along the way. **2020 Caldecott Honor Book**

Reidy, Jean. [Truman.](#)

When a girl named Sarah leaves for her first day of kindergarten, her pet turtle decides to make a daredevil break and find her.

Robinson, Christian. [Another.](#)

What if you...encountered another perspective? Met another you? What might you do?

Willems, Mo. [Because.](#)

A series of events, some seemingly very insignificant, lead to a young girl attending a life-changing concert. **Read also:** Any book by Mo Willems!

Yang, James. [Stop! Bot!](#)

When a child loses control of a flying bot, a diverse group of apartment residents attempt to stop it.

Easy Reader Series Fiction

The following books are series fiction books that are just right for children who are beginning to read on their own.

Arnold, Tedd. Fly Guy Series

Adler, David. Cam Jansen Series

Barrow, Annie. Ivy and Bean Series

Brown, Jeff. Flat Stanley Series

DiCamillo, Kate. Mercy Watson Series, Tales of Deckawoo Drive Series and Bink & Gollie Series

Hale, Shannon. The Princess in Black

Kelly, David A. Ballpark Mysteries

Krulik, Nancy. Katie Kazoo Switcheroo Series

Litman, Eric. Pete the Cat Series

Manushkin, Fran. Katie Woo Series

Meadows, Daisy. Rainbow Magic Fairies Series

Osborne, Mary Pope. Magic Treehouse Series

Parish, Herman. Amelia Bedelia Series

Park, Barbara. Junie B. Jones Series

Quinn, Jordan. The Kingdom of Wrenly Series

Ron, Roy. A to Z Mysteries and Calendar Mysteries

Rylant, Cynthia. Henry and Mudge Series

Sharmat, Marjorie. Nate the Great Series

West, Tracey. Dragon Masters Series

Also: Hello Reader!, I Can Read Books, Puffin Easy-to-Read books, and Step into Reading Levels 1-4

Favorite Lower School Authors:

These authors have written many books and are some of The Peck School students favorites!

Marc Brown
David Shannon
Doreen Cronin
Mo Willems
Eric Carle
Mac Barnett
Jon Klassen

Dan Gutman
Jan Brett
Mary Pope Osborne
Rosemary Wells
Eve Bunting
Nick Bruel
Jerry Pinkney

Kevin Henkes
Dr. Seuss
James Marshall
Russell Hoban
Leo Lionni
Kate DiCamillo
Tomie DaPaola

Non-Fiction

Recommended Series Non-fiction: Eyewitness Books, The Magic School Bus, and World Book Guides, Scientists in the Field

Arnosky, Jim. [Look at Me! Wild Animal Show-Offs.](#)

Acclaimed naturalist Jim Arnosky introduces children to the most eye-catching creatures in the animal kingdom!

Read also: [Hidden Wildlife: How Animals Hide in Plain Sight](#), [Creep and Flutter: The Secret World of Insects and Spiders](#), [Frozen Wild: How Animals Survive in the Coldest Places on Earth](#), [Slither and Crawl: Eye to Eye With Reptiles](#), [Tooth and Claw: The Wild World of Big Predators](#)

Davies, Nicola. [A First Book of the Sea.](#)

Fifty-three poems introduce children to the sea and to people and beings that live and work in and around it.

Hubbard, Rita Lorraine. [The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read.](#)

Born into slavery in 1848, Mary Walker lived to be 121 years old, and at the age of 116, Mary achieved her dream of learning to read.

Moss, Marissa. [The Eye That Never Sleeps: How Detective Pinkerton Saved President Lincoln.](#)

How Allan Pinkerton, the first police detective in Chicago and owner of the country's most successful detective agency, protected Abraham Lincoln on the way to his 1861 inauguration.

Sidman, Joyce. [The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian's Art Changed Science.](#)

Joyce Sidman paints her own picture of one of the first female entomologists and a woman who flouted convention in the pursuit of knowledge and her passion for insects. **Read also:** [Round, Before Morning](#), [Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night](#), [Winter Bees and Other Poems of the Cold](#), [Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature](#), [Red Sings From The Treetops](#)

Suneby, Elizabeth. [Iqbal and his Ingenious Idea: How a Science Project Helps One Family and the Planet.](#)

It's monsoon season in Bangladesh, which means Iqbal's mother must cook the family's meals indoors, over an open fire. Iqbal comes up with the perfect idea for his entry: he'll design a stove that doesn't produce smoke!